Disposal of Grazing Rights in "Terige" Lands in Amrut Mahal Kavals.

READ—

Correspondence ending with letter No. Roc. 2360 of 27-28, dated 7th December 1928, from the Director of Agriculture, submitting his opinion regarding the manner in which the grazing rights in the "terige" lands of the Amrut Mahal Kavals may be disposed of.

ORDER NO. D. 8192-8200—A. M. 48-27-5, DATED 13TH FEBRUARY 1929.

It has been brought to the notice of Government that the system of disposing of the grazing rights in "terige" lands in Amrut Mahal Kavals by auction has resulted in considerable hardship to the villagers in as much as the bids are unduly forced up through unhealthy rivalry or by moneyed persons who wish to profiteer. In order to remedy this state of affairs, the Director of Agriculture proposes that the right of grazing in such lands may in future be sold for a fixed sum, calculated on the basis of the average realisations of the previous five years, to the villagers or the Servegars, the former being given the first refusal. In case neither of them is willing to pay the required amount, he suggests that the right may be sold by auction as heretofore.

2. Government are pleased to approve the proposal of the Director.

3. Mr. H. Basavaiya, Member, Representative Assembly, Hassan, who brought up this subject for discussion at the Representative Assembly in June 1928, may be informed accordingly, by the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District.

N. RAMA RAO,
Secretary to Government,
Development Departments.

LAW SECRETARIAT.

Reviews the Administration Report of the Police Department for the year 1927-28.

READ—

Letter No. Per. 73, dated 19th November 1928, from the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore, submitting a Report on the Administration of the Police Department during the year 1927-28 with the required statistics.

ORDER NO. P. 4506-16—POL. 178-28-2, DATED 15TH FEBRUARY 1929.

Recorded.

2. MR. S. HIRIANNAIYA, M.A., B.L., was in charge of the Department throughout the year under review.

3. *Principal Measures.*—Among the measures sanctioned during the year were the revision of the rules for punishment by black marks under Rule 137 of the Police Manual, the extension of certain provisions of section 56 of the Police Regulation to the towns of Bhadravati and Shiralkoppa in the Shimoga District, the transfer of the police jurisdiction over Hosdurga and Jagalur Taluks to the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Davangere, and the District Superintendent of Police, Chitaldrug, respectively, the systematisation of the Malnad and Ghat Batta allowances, and the arrangement for the Assistant Superintendent of Police, Railways and C. I. D. supervising the special police staff employed for the prevention of the smuggling of sandalwood in Kolar and Bangalore Districts.

4. *Cognizable Offences.*—During the year, 8,029 cognizable offences of all classes or 123 cases more than in the previous year were reported to the Police. The increase was contributed mainly by the Districts of Kolar and Hassan and the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore, and the Railways. The largest increase was in the Bangalore City, *viz.*, by 344 cases, while the largest decrease was in the Shimoga District, *viz.*, by 201 cases. The improvement in this respect in the Kolar Gold Fields has been steady

during the past three years. The increase where it is noticeable is explained to be due, among other causes, to the stricter enforcement of the Criminal Tribes Regulation, the larger number of cases instituted under the Motor Vehicles Regulation and the proper registration of Crimes, and the decrease generally to greater vigilance exercised by the Police.

5. Inclusive of the cases pending from the previous year, the Police had 11,371 cases to deal with as against 10,982 cases in 1926-27. Of these 51 cases were transferred, investigation was refused in 332 cases, 1,581 cases were declared by the Magistrates to be false or due to mistake of fact or law or non-cognizable, 1,073 cases were returned as undetectable and 316 cases were disposed of otherwise. Out of the remaining 8,018 cases, 3,462 cases ended in conviction and 1,190 cases in acquittal or discharge, leaving 3,366 cases pending at the end of the year as against 3,342 in the previous year, *i.e.*, 336 cases, on "A" reports, 620 cases on "B" reports with Magistrates, and 1,410 cases, against 1,381 cases in the previous year, with the Police. The percentage of convictions to cases decided was 74·42 as against 74·75, *i.e.*, practically the same as in the previous year.

6. *Offences against the State, Public Tranquillity, etc.*—The number of cases under this head dealt with during the year, inclusive of 129 cases pending from the previous year, was 244 against 249 in 1926-27. There was an appreciable fall in the number of cases of unlawful assembly and rioting, *viz.*, from 100 to 40. Of the 244 cases, 114 cases were reported as true as against 88, and 69 cases ended in conviction, as against 47 cases, in the previous year, the percentage being 60·52 as against 53·4. A case of uttering forged currency notes of the denomination of Rs. 100 detected in the Arsikere Taluk was ultimately traced to Bangalore, where certain persons with the aid of a former convict were found to have been making unsuccessful attempts to prepare the plate for counterfeiting. The accused were caught in the act, all the implements were seized, and all of them, except one who was made an approver, were convicted and sentenced to deterrent terms of imprisonment. A case of rioting which created local sensation was reported from Yelandur Town where the Pariwars, who form the majority of the population, are alleged to have attacked the local Mahomedans armed with clubs on the *Bakrid* day. A charge-sheet is reported to have been placed against the accused Pariwars. The previous year's case of rioting at Bharmasagara in the Chitaldrug Taluk ended in conviction during the year under review.

7. *Severe offences against person.*—While the number of cases of murder during the year as compared with the previous year, increased from 59 to 71, cases of 'culpable' homicide and 'attempts at murder' showed a fall, the figures being 23 and 9 respectively against 31 and 10. The total number of convictions for these offences was less than in the previous year, *viz.*, 37 against 39. There was a decrease in the number of cases of grievous hurt and kidnapping by 15 and 2 respectively as compared with the previous year.

8. *Dacoity and Robbery and Housebreaking and Theft.*—It is noteworthy that cases of dacoity and robbery decreased from 93 to 67. The number of cases of housebreaking and theft however increased from 1,529 to 1,567. Under these heads the percentage of convictions to cases returned as true was 31·4 and 27·65, respectively, during the year against 42·4 and 22·3 in 1926-27. A case of robbery in a house in the Jagalur Taluk on the night of 15th April 1927, in which the stolen property consisted of cash and jewels of the value of Rs. 650 is suspected to be the work of a criminal gang from British India and no clue is reported to have been obtained so far towards the detection of the case.

A case of burglary in a temple in the Hiriyur Taluk on 28th August 1927, in which gold and silver jewels valued at Rs. 935 and cash of Rs. 400 were stolen, is reported to have been successfully investigated by the local Police with the result that a substantial portion of the stolen property was recovered and two out of the four accused sent up for trial were convicted.

9. *Cases referred to the Police for enquiry.*—The effect of the instructions issued by the Chief Court in June 1927 in the matter of Magistrates using greater discrimination in referring cases to the Police for investigation is reflected in the appreciable decrease in the number of cases so referred during the year, *viz.*, 285 against 486 in the previous year. The percentage of such cases returned as true was 11·9 as against 8·2 in the previous year, while that of cases reported to be false was 51·9 as against 64·8.

10. *Recovery of stolen property.*—The value of property lost was Rs. 2,40,271-3-4 in 3,189 cognizable cases against Rs. 2,96,488-6-9 in 2,821 cases, and property of the value of Rs. 1,10,819-8-11 concerned in 2,014 cases was recovered as against Rs. 1,43,052-15-2 in 1,750 cases, the percentage of the value of property recovered to that lost being 46·95 as against 48·2 in the previous year.

11. *Preventive action under Section 565, Cr. P. C.*—During the year 33 convicted persons, as against 28 in the previous year, were ordered to notify their residence for terms ranging from 1 to 5 years after their release from Jail. But the improvement is inappreciable, considering the fact that there were 322 persons against whom previous convictions for offences under Chapter XII and XVII of the I.P.C. were proved. Government hope that this precautionary measure will be more largely used in the future.

12. *Offences under the Infant Marriage Prevention Regulation.*—As in the previous year, there were no prosecutions under this Regulation.

13. *Offences under the Juvenile Smoking Prevention Regulation.*—Four hundred and twenty-seven juveniles were warned as first offenders during the year as against 369 in the previous year. In seven cases the shop owners were also prosecuted for selling smoking materials to juveniles. Of these four cases ended in conviction, one in acquittal and the remaining two were pending with the Magistrates. The evil is more widespread than these figures indicate and demands stricter enforcement of the provisions of the Regulation.

14. *Offences under the Coffee Stealing Prevention Regulation.*—As in the previous year there were no prosecutions under this Regulation.

15. *Offences under the Criminal Tribes Regulation.*—One hundred and sixty-two cases involving 171 persons were instituted under the Regulation as against 73 cases involving 75 persons in the previous year. Of these 132 cases involving 147 persons ended in conviction, six cases involving six persons ended in acquittal or discharge, in one case the proceedings were stopped and the remaining 23 cases involving 23 persons were pending trial at the close of the year.

16. *Inspection of Tonga and Jatka Ponies.*—There were as usual half-yearly inspections of Tonga and Jutka ponies conducted jointly by the Veterinary and Police Inspectors. No prosecutions were instituted under Section 57 of the Police Regulation.

17. *Working of the Motor Vehicles Regulation and Rules.*—During the year under review 556 Motor Vehicles were registered under the Regulation as against 361 in the previous year. There were 97 cases of motor accidents against 85 in the previous year, of which 50 were pure accidents. Out of the remaining 47 cases nine ended in conviction, six in acquittal or discharge, three were "B" sheeted, one was compounded and one case was withdrawn and the remaining 27 cases were pending at the close of the year. The most serious of these accidents was the one which occurred at Varuna on the Mysore-T.-Narsipur Road on 29th February 1928 in consequence of a bus plying for hire catching fire and falling into a tank and it resulted in the death of eight persons. The driver of the bus whose negligence was responsible for this catastrophe was prosecuted and has lately been convicted under Section 304, I. P. C. and sentenced to two years rigorous imprisonment. With the number of motor vehicles multiplying rapidly the effective control of motor traffic is becoming more and more necessary and sustained effort is required to tackle the problem. There is considerable room for improvement both in the existing system of control and its practical working and such improvements as are possible can be effected only gradually as experience suggests. To this end a central agency should collect the necessary data by carefully and intelligently tabulating the various causes which contribute to the motor accidents that happen from time to time instead of leaving each case of accident to be dealt with in the usual course without being followed up in its bearing on the remedial measures to be adopted to prevent its recurrence. Improvements in the system of periodical inspection and control over speed at various points are obviously indicated and the Inspector-General of Police is requested to suggest suitable measures in these directions.

18. *Inspection Work.*—The Inspector-General of Police toured in all the Districts of the State and was out in camp for 148 days, inspected the offices of all the District Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Police, 38 Taluk Police

Offices, 70 Head Stations, 31 Sub-Stations and 27 Out-Posts. While the inspection work of the Deputy Commissioners of Districts during the year was fair, that of the Superintendents of Police left much to be desired.

19. *Criminal Investigation Department.*—As observed by Government in their review of the report for 1926-27, the Criminal Investigation Department requires re-organisation. The proposals of the Inspector-General of Police regarding this and other allied matters to which he refers in his present report, *viz.*, organization of a Criminal Intelligence Bureau for recording the history of the more dangerous criminals operating in more than one district and of a separate section to watch political activities are awaited.

20. *Cost of the Department.*—The cost of the Police Administration during the year was Rs. 16,29,073-11-11 as against Rs. 16,19,948-2-10 in 1926-27, the increase of Rs. 9,125 in the expenditure being due to the augmentation of the Bangalore City Police Force sanctioned in April 1927.

21. *General.*—Government are glad to note that the Administration of the Department was satisfactory during the year under report. The attention of District Magistrates is invited to the observations in para 26 of the report in regard to the need for greater promptness in the trial and disposal of cases in Courts and it is hoped that they will take suitable steps in that direction.

P. MAHADEVAYYA,
Secretary to Government,
Law Department.

FINANCIAL SECRETARIAT.

Rates of mileage of all classes of officers for Road Journeys performed by means of buses.

READ—

Proceedings of the Officers' Meeting held at Mysore on 4th June 1928, in the matter of allowing to Inferior Servants actual bus fare plus daily allowance, as the present rate of mileage, *viz.*, 6 pies per mile is not adequate to meet their out-of-pocket expenses.

2. Correspondence ending with letter No. 13—Rys., dated 19th July 1928, from the Comptroller to the Government of Mysore, forwarding a copy of Railway Auditor's letter No. E. A. 34 T. 1820, dated 20th June 1928, suggesting modifications in the rates of mileage of all classes of officers for road journeys performed by means of buses.

ORDER NO. FL. 6132-91—S. & A. 201-28-1, DATED 12—15TH FEBRUARY 1929.

Motor bus service having been established in several parts of the State, the question of suitably revising the rules for the grant of mileage in respect of road journeys performed by buses has been under the consideration of Government for some time past. It has been represented that the existing mileage rate of 6 pies in the case of officers in inferior service is inadequate to meet their actual travelling expenses. On the other hand, it has been pointed out by the Audit Department that the present mileage rates to officers in superior service for journeys by buses are excessive and admit of reduction.

Some revision of the existing arrangement in regard to mileage rates for journeys by buses appears to be necessary and Government consider it desirable to introduce the change tentatively in respect of certain classes of public servants and watch its results before extending it to other officers. Government are accordingly pleased to sanction the following rules for the grant of travelling allowance for road journeys with effect from 1st April 1929:—

(i) Where there is regular bus service between places unconnected by rail, such means of locomotion shall be used by all officers whose salary is less than Rs. 40 (whether in superior or inferior service) unless otherwise authorised by Heads of Offices concerned for reasons to be recorded in writing.

(ii) For journeys by buses, these officers will be allowed actual bus fare of the lowest class plus daily allowance for all distances exceeding 5 miles from Headquarters.

(iii) The District Magistrates will furnish the Comptroller once a quarter with schedules of rates authorised to be charged by bus owners in their respective districts.